

eastern Idaho's agriculture community.

Don's generosity and good-natured approach to life and work is also reflected in his induction into the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame. He is a valued counselor and friend of my entire family. I salute him on the accomplishment of this high honor. I know you and my colleagues in the Senate join me in offering our congratulations to Don Dixon.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUNNING). The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues who were able to work out time back and forth on various issues.

NOMINATIONS OF MARSHA BERZON AND RICHARD PAEZ

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I had the privilege to address the Senate for about 15 minutes on the quality of two wonderful Ninth Circuit court nominees who are coming up for cloture votes today at 5 o'clock. I am very hopeful we can, in fact, shut off debate on this and get to the votes themselves tomorrow.

These are two excellent people, wonderful human beings, wonderful family members. Their families and they have gone through a difficult time because they have been kind of twisting in the wind—for 2 years, in Marsha's case; in Richard's case, for 4 years—while awaiting this moment. I hope if they are watching today, they feel as optimistic as do I that hopefully it is going to have a happy ending.

CEDAW

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today is International Women's Day. To all you women out there, and men who care about women, happy International Women's Day.

I think it is very fitting on International Women's Day to discuss a treaty this Senate should ratify, but has not ratified in over 20 years. This treaty, signed by President Carter, almost made it to the Senate floor some 6 years ago when it was voted favorably out of the Foreign Relations Committee. Unfortunately, it was never brought up. The treaty is called CEDAW. It stands for the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

This is a treaty that has been nicknamed the Magna Carta for women because it essentially gives basic human rights to women all over the world. That is why 165 nations, all of our allies and friends in the world, have in fact ratified it. But we haven't ratified it. One might say, well, who hasn't ratified it? I am sorry to say, we are standing with such stalwarts of democracy as Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and

Somalia. We don't belong in that company. This country is, in fact, a leader of human rights. It is really an embarrassment that we have not brought that treaty to the Senate floor.

I wrote a resolution that calls on the Senate to ask the Foreign Relations Committee to hold a hearing on CEDAW. It now has 25 cosponsors, including Republicans. It is very simple. It expresses the sense of the Senate that the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations—that is a committee on which I serve—should hold hearings, and the Senate should act on CEDAW, should take action on this convention to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women. The resolution goes through why this treaty is so important. It talks about how important it is that CEDAW be enacted: because it would help give women equal rights, equal opportunity, equal education; it would help them get protection against violence. We know that happens all over the world where women don't have equal rights. And it would give us the clout, if you will, the portfolio to be stronger as a world leader.

The bottom line of this is that today I asked the Democratic leadership to ask unanimous consent to bring this resolution that I wrote to the floor. The resolution doesn't say ratify this convention. It simply says to the Foreign Relations Committee, please hold hearings.

It was objected to by the other side of the aisle because they don't want to have this hearing. I will discuss that because it is with great respect that I bring up these differences between the two sides of the aisle. The chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, with whom I have a wonderful relationship, a very good working relationship, took to the floor of the Senate today. He unequivocally stated—and when he wants to be unequivocal, he can—that he will not hold hearings on the Convention to Eliminate all Forms of Discrimination Against Women. And he explained why. I totally respect his right to have this view, but I will paraphrase the reasons he gave as to why he doesn't want to hold hearings on this. I will offer another view.

First, he said he wasn't going to hold hearings because there are radical groups behind this treaty.

I ask unanimous consent to print in the RECORD a list of the organizations that have endorsed the women's convention.

There being no objection, the list was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE ENDORSED THE WOMEN'S CONVENTION (PARTIAL LIST)

Action for Development
 *American Association of Retired Persons
 *American Association of University Women
 *American Bar Association
 American College of Nurse-Midwives

American Council for the United Nations University

American Federation of Teachers

*American Friends Service Committee

*American Jewish Committee

*American Nurses Association

American Veterans Committee

Americans for Democratic Action, Inc.

*Amnesty International USA

Association for Women in Development

Association for Women in Psychology

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith

*Bahá'is of the United States

Black Women's Agenda

*B'nai B'rith International

Bread for the World

*Business and Professional Women/USA

BVM Network for Women's Issues

Catholics for A Free Choice

Center for Advancement of Public Policy

Center for Policy Alternatives

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy

Center for Women's Global Leadership

Center of Concern

Chicago Catholic Women

Church of the Brethren, Washington Office

*Church Women United

Coalition on Religion & Ecology

Coalition for Women in International Development

Columban Fathers' Justice & Peace Office

Commission on the Advancement of Women/InterAction

D.C. Statehood Solidarity Committee

Earthcommunity Center

Eighth Day Center for Justice

Episcopal Church

*Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

*Feminist Majority Foundation

Francois Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights

Friends of the U.N.

*Friends Committee on National Legislation

*General Federation of Women's Clubs

Global Commission to Fund the UN

Gray Panthers

Guatemala Human Rights Commission

Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America

Health & Development Policy Project

Human Rights Advocates

Human Rights Watch/Women's Rights Division

The Humane Society

International Center for Research on Women
 International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission

International Human Rights Law Group

International Women's Health Coalition

International Women's Human Rights Law Clinic

International Women Judges Foundation

The J. Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights

Jewish Council for Public Affairs

*Jewish Women International

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc.

Lawyers Committee for Human Rights

*Leadership Conference of Women Religious

*League of Women Voters of the United States

Louisville Women-Church

Maryknoll Mission Association of the Faithful

Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns

Massachusetts Women-Church

Na'amat USA

*National Association of Commissions for Women

National Association of Social Workers

National Association of Women Lawyers

National Audubon Society

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence